

Both portions of Mr. Reich's petition should be rejected.

Providing upgrades solely on the basis of merit for public service or for some public service need completely ignores the requirement that amateurs must be technically proficient as well. There must still be some way to demonstrate that an amateur understands how radio communication works, and that is fulfilled by the current testing system.

The second portion of Mr. Reich's petition, namely returning 2-meter privileges to novices, is flawed. If the first portion is granted, there would be no need for the second.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas H. Busch WB8WOR